

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 050612
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 050612

NODIS

WH - FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

FOL RPT LISBON 1806 ACTION SECSTATE 7 MAR 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T LISBON 1806

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, AO, US

SUBJ: ANGOLAN NORMALIZATION

REF: (A) STATE 049212, (B) LISBON 1596

1. FOLLOWING ARE PARTIAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN
PARA 2 REF A. MORE DETAILED COMMENTS WILL BE FORWARDED
AFTER NEXT MEETING WITH FERREIRA.

-- (A) REGARDING NETO'S CHARGES OF FEBRUARY
24, FERREIRA COMMENTED TO EMBOFF DURING REF B
MEETING THAT ANGOLA KNEW THAT CERTAIN FOREIGN COUNTRIES,
SPECIFICALLY ZAIRE AND SOUTH AFRICA, WERE DIRECTLY

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SUPPORTING FNLA, UNITA AND FLEC GUERRILLA OPERATIONS AGAINST
LEGAL RPA GOVT. HE SAID THAT SOME PERSONS IN NETO GOVT
BELIEVED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS ALSO INVOLVED, AT LEAST
INDIRECTLY. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT PRESIDENT NETO DID
NOT BELIEVE THESE ACCUSATIONS, AND THAT HE HIMSELF THOUGHT
CHARGES OF U.S. INTERFERENCE/SUPPORT WERE BEING MADE
STRICTLY FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL PURPOSES. FERREIRA WAS

APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF ANY PLANS BY NETO TO MAKE PUBLIC
ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE U.S.

-- (B) WE INTERPRET FERREIRA COMMENTS THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD
TAKE PLACE "AT EMBASSY LEVEL" AS A GENERIC STATEMENT, REFLECTING
RPA'S DESIRE FOR RECOGNITION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID
THAT ONCE THE U.S. RECOGNIZES THE NETO GOVT., PROBLEMS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES COULD BE MORE EASILY AND QUICKLY
RESOLVED. HOWEVER, FERREIRA WAS DELIBERATELY VAGUE IN SUGGESTING
WHAT NEXT STEP SHOULD BE AND DID NOT MENTION LUANDA SPECIFICALLY
AS LOCUS FOR FURTHER TALKS. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN
LISBON 0911, OFFER IN STATE 021182 WAS PASSED EXACTLY AS
SUGGESTED AND SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION INDICATED FERREIRA UNDER-
STOOD MESSAGE THOROUGHLY. EMBOFF REMINDED FERREIRA OF THIS
CLEARLY STATED U.S. POSITION, AND SUGGESTED THAT MANY STEPS AND
LEVELS OF NEGOTIATION WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE DECISION ON
FORMAL RECOGNITION COULD BE MADE.

2. DCM WILL DISCUSS POINTS RAISED IN REF A WITH FERREIRA
AS SOON AS SUITABLE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE. AT
THIS POINT EMBASSY SEES NO REASON NOT TO CONTINUE USING
FERREIRA AS CHANNEL TO NETO.

3. FYI: REGRET MISUNDERSTANDING CONCERNING DATE OF MEETING.
FERREIRA WAS UNABLE MEET WITH EMBOFF UNTIL FRIDAY EVENING
FEBRUARY 18. LOCAL FOLLOWUP ACTIONS DELAYED PREPARATION OF
REPORTING TELEGRAM.
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UNQUOTE VANCE
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Message Attributes

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